

PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

# Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/727,744
Filing Date	December 1, 2000
First Named Inventor	Lawrence R. Fontaine
Art Unit	2183
Examiner Name	Aimee J. Li
Attorney Docket Number	RA5312(1028.1132101)

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to  
a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 50-0413 I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

05/06/2005 SDENB0B1 00000027 500413 09727744

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.138 and 1.17)

01 FC:1801 790.00 DA

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2036 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2036.**

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature	<i>Brian A. Tufte</i>	Date	May 5, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Brian A. Tufte	Registration No.	38,638

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Signature	<i>Lynn Thompson</i>	Date	May 5, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Lynn Thompson		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**CROMPTON | SEAGER | TUFTE | LLC**

Patent, Trademark &amp; Copyright Attorneys

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 05 2005**

1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420  
Phone 612.677.9050  
Fax 612.359.9349

**Fax Transmission**

TO: Commissioner for Patents  
Attn: Examiner Aimee J. Li  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Brian N. Tufte  
OUR REF: RA 5312 (1028.1132101)  
TELEPHONE: 612.677.9050

Total pages, including cover letter: 2**PTO FAX NUMBER 703-872-9306**

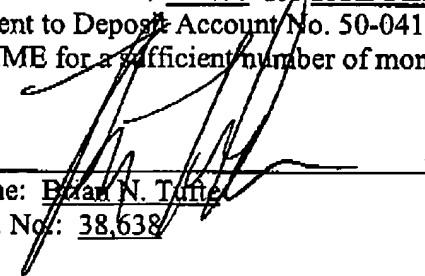
If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at 612.677.9050, or fax us at 612.359.9349.

Title of Document Transmitted: Request for Continued Examination  
Applicant: Lawrence R. Fontaine et al.  
Serial No.: 09/727,744  
Filed: December 1, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 2183  
Our Ref. No.: RA 5312 (1028.1132101)  
Confirmation No. 4178  
Customer No. 28075

RECEIVED  
MAY - 6 2005  
OIEP/JCWS

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0413 in the amount of \$ 790.00 for **RCE FEE**.

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By:   
Name: Brian N. Tufte  
Reg. No.: 38,638

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name: Lynn Thompson

Lynn Thompson  
Signature

May 5, 2005  
Date